Salt Marsh Word Search

Read the information below for a quick refresher on some important plant and animals species of the Salt Marsh.

Welcome to the Salt Marsh!

The Salt Marsh is home to many unique plant and animal species. Here are a few species that you should know. Keep an eye out for the underlined words to find later in the Word Search puzzle below, along with a few extra words from the vocabulary list.

Salty

Photo: Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse in the Pickleweed, Dr. Katie Smith

Photo: Pickleweed in Bloom, USFWS

Pickleweed is a succulent plant that is endemic to the salt marsh. It is a halophyte, which means that it is extremely salt-tolerant and can survive in water or soil that has a high salinity.

Pickleweed is also the main food source of the endangered Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse.

Cordgrass is another plant crucial to the salt marsh ecosystem. The cordgrass can live in brackish water, a mix of salt and freshwater. Cordgrass is also one of the plant species most at risk due to habitat degradation and urban runoff pollution.

The endangered California Ridgway's Rail spends most of its time foraging for food under the dense cover that the cordgrass provides.
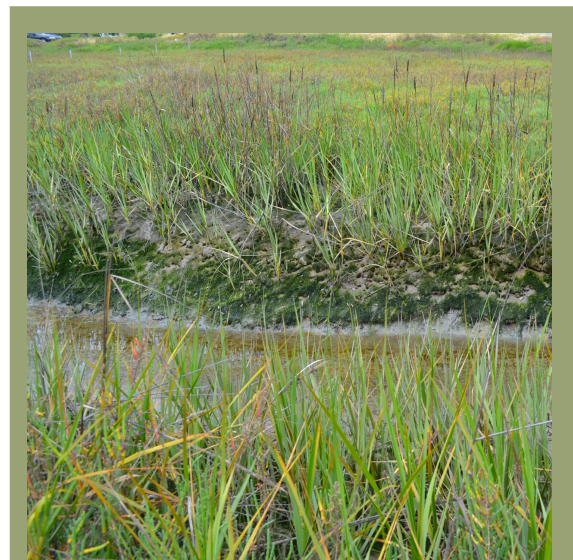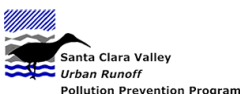
Cali

Photo: Cordgrass, USFWS

Salt Marsh Word Search

Use the word list below as well as the underlined words from the passage above to complete this word search puzzle. Find all of the words and circle them. Then use the remaining letters to reveal a hidden message!

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C  I  M  E  D  N  E  C  O  N  G  D  R  S  A
T  U  L  H  A  L  O  P  H  Y  T  E  A  A  T
V  B  I  O  N  E  C  O  T  O  N  E  S  L  Y
E  I  S  S  A  R  G  D  R  O  C  W  O  I  H
G  O  U  E  N  D  A  N  G  E  R  E  D  N  A
E  D  F  F  O  N  U  R  A  R  E  L  A  I  R
T  I  D  S  T  A  T  I  B  A  H  K  A  T  V
A  V  E  L  E  D  I  T  T  M  A  C  R  Y  E
T  E  H  S  H  H  B  R  A  C  K  I  S  H  S
I  R  S  E  R  O  V  O  H  Y  E  P  L  D  T
O  S  R  I  D  G  W  A  Y  S  R  A  I  L  M
N  I  E  S  P  E  C  I  E  S  D  Q  R  W  O
L  T  T  G  M  E  T  S  Y  S  O  C  E  G  U
K  Y  A  H  Y  D  R  O  L  O  G  Y  E  V  S
T  L  W  F  T  Y  K  I  N  V  A  S  I  V  E
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biodiversity
ecosystem
ecotone

habitat
hydrology
invasive

tide
vegetation
watershed

species

Fill in the blank spaces with the remaining letters in order to reveal your hidden message.

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